Riots - 1937

Alabama

Luverne, Ala., Journal
December 1, 1937

Years ago, about the time yankee carpet-baggers came through the South offering to sell the Negroes 40 acres of land and a mule we had some Negro uprisings in Alabama. The deed given to the negro to the 40 acres of land read as follows: "As Moses lifted the serpent out of the wilderness. even so have I lifted this old Negro out of $40.00." The negro was told to pick out his mule and select his 40 acres of land. We don't know whether this brought about the uprising or not, but we remember hearing our father tell about the uprising over at Sandy Ridge in Lowndes county where many Negroes were killed. If there is any one livng who remembers the Sandy Ridge uprising, we would like to hear about it. We have no trouble with our colored people now, they have become lawabiding, and work to buy the land and the mule. We don't need Senator Wagner's anti-lynch bill. He may need one in New York.

Riots - 1937

North Carolina.

Hillsboro, N. C. News
August 26, 1937

Small Riot Between White and Colored At Carrboro

There came near being a small riot between white and colored people of West Chapel Hill and Carrboro early Sunday morning. It seems the trouble started at a filling station just over the line in Carrboro when a white man struck a negro over the head with a beer bottle. A hundred or more negroes gathered on the scene and some wild and wooly acts were pulled off between the whites and blacks. Several shots were fired, brick bats and stones were hurled at passing automobiles in the west end section.

Several people were injured., among them was Ralph Neville, white, and Charlie Durham and Sinclair Farrington, of Chapel Hill, negroes. Neville was carried to Duke hospital, where his injuries, it is said, were not serious. Durham and Fearrington were carried to Lincoln hospital. Fearrington, it was reported, had extensive lacerations of the head and face and possible brain concussion.

The trouble began in Carrboro about 2 o'clock Sunday morning after James Horne, white, allegedly struck Tom Atwater, colored, with a bottle. Horne was arrested and brought to Hillsboro jail, but was later released at 11:30 Sunday morning, according to R. H. Miller, Carrboro chief of police. Mills said it was hoped that the incident would be forgotten as quickly as possible.

Eight Durham officers were on the scene pretty soon after the trouble was over. They found the disturbance under control when they arrived. Several shots were exchanged by a crowd of negroes and a group of white men, who built a barricade of railroad ties on a truck.

Neville, it was said, was injured when he fell from this truck, one of the cross ties fell on him, and he also was believed to have been run over by an automobile.

It is said policemen from Chapel Hill gathered at the scene in automobiles, but things were so furious they were unable to land in several minutes. They finally got everything in hand and quiet prevailed. They feared no further trouble and no outbreak has took place since.